

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE AT CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BANK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I will honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, legacy by volunteering my time to help veterans in my community. Congressman SCOTT PERRY of Pennsylvania's Fourth District and I will be at the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank in Harrisburg to pack boxes for the MilitaryShare program.

MilitaryShare is a program that serves fresh, nutritious meals to families with at least one member who has served in the military. This program assists area veterans and their families to ensure they do not go hungry.

Our veterans have numerous needs when they leave the military, and many of them are life-threatening challenges as a result of combat such as post-traumatic stress injury. When we help meet the nutritional needs of military families, it allows them to focus on other pressing issues such as joblessness or treatment for combat-related health issues.

MilitaryShare serves more than 4,000 households in central Pennsylvania, which translates to about 10,000 people a month.

Mr. Speaker, to serve one's country is a noble and selfless act. The very least we can do is to help our veterans transition to civilian life when they return home.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH AND YOUTH MENTORS ACROSS THE NATION

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Mentoring Month and in honor of the youth mentors across Rhode Island and the Nation.

Every day, mentors enrich the lives of young people. They are powerful role models who provide essential support for at-risk youth.

Just some of examples of the powerful impact that mentors have in the life of young people are that vulnerable young people with mentors are more likely to enroll in college and volunteer more regularly than their peers. They are 46 percent less likely to start using drugs and 52 percent less likely to skip school.

They are also more likely to develop self-confidence, form healthy relationships, and cultivate productive habits.

Organizations like the Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership and Big Brothers Big Sisters lead the way in the Ocean State. Organizations like this and mentors across the country are im-

proving our communities one child at a time, and I am proud to honor them as we recognize National Mentoring Month this January 2017. I encourage more people to step forward and serve as mentors and make a difference in the lives of young people.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DESIGNATE THE IRGC AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. It funds and controls terrorists groups like Hezbollah. Its tentacles stretch all over the world, far beyond the Middle East.

Many of its activities are done through the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which has funded, planned, and executed terrorist attacks in the United States and elsewhere for decades.

The IRGC is the parent organization of the Quds Force and is directly responsible for its terrorist activities worldwide. But somehow this group has managed to escape repercussions, and the United States has never recognized it as a terrorist organization. I am working to change that.

This week I introduced the IRGC Terrorist Sanctions Act. This bill will require the President to designate the IRGC for its terrorist activity and levy the relevant statutory sanctions against it.

It is time to close loopholes like these that allow terrorist-affiliated groups to continue their reign of terror. Designate and sanction these terrorist groups that are sponsored by the number one world state sponsor of terrorism, Iran.

And that is just the way it is.

SHAM AND SCAM

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans just voted to begin the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. Their misguided and heartless effort will not just affect thousands of insurance policies in Nevada, but it will cost the State jobs, it will diminish access to health care, and it will jeopardize lives.

Nevada had one of the highest uninsured rates in the country before the ACA. Since then, we have cut the rate by almost 50 percent, and we have created a system that now provides 400,000 children and adults with coverage. But Trump and the congressional Republicans don't want to hear about that.

Make no mistake, when they voted to repeal the ACA, they are revoking vital programs that offer cancer screenings and mental health assistance. They are rescinding provisions that prevent insurance companies from charging

women more than men, or from denying benefits because of preexisting conditions.

This is unconscionable. Instead of repeal and replace, the Republicans should just call their proposal "destroy and delay," or perhaps just simply "scam and sham."

RUSSIAN THREAT TO U.S. DEMOCRACY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the freedom to live in a democratic society with freedom of speech, assembly, press, and religion are rights Americans hold most precious.

Not so in Putin's Russia. Putin's Russia brutally invaded Ukraine in 2013, resulting, to date, in over 10,000 war dead, with millions of displaced persons. The war grinds on.

Dozens and dozens of Putin's critics in the press have ended up dead, murdered for expressing their views. In 2015, Boris Nemstov, about to lead an assembly in favor of Ukrainian independence in Moscow, was murdered on the stairs near the Kremlin.

Georgiy Gongadze, editor of the news Website Ukrayinska Pravda, featured critical articles about Putin ally Leonid Kuchma. He disappeared in the year 2000, and his headless body was discovered in a forest more than 40 miles from home.

Anna Politkovskaya, a Russian journalist, was murdered in the elevator of her block of flats in 2006.

And Paul Klebnikov, an American, who was chief editor of the Russian edition of Forbes, was killed in 2004, likely by hired assassins.

All dead, no investigations, no justice. This is Putin's Russia.

President-elect Trump best be very wary of whom he showers praise upon, for the cock is crowing too close to home.

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the anniversary of the devastating earthquake that struck the nation of Haiti on January 12, 2010. This Thursday marked 7 years since a magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, killing Haiti's population center and the seat of its government.

The aftermath of the quake was unimaginable. 316,000 people perished, and 1.3 million were displaced. This tragedy struck a nation already hobbled by grinding poverty, health disparities, and food insecurity. Approximately 147,000 people remain internally displaced in Haiti, with countless others displaced outside IDP camps.